

I know the FCC is considering implementing a "Do not call" rule. While I believe this is a good idea, I do implore you to structure it so that individual state laws on the same subject take precedence over the federal law. The reason that I request this is the following.

Indiana has its own "do not call law", and as I understand it, the proposed FCC rules are much less stringent than the law we currently have in place. I am quite serious when I say that the Indiana law has made a huge difference in the quality of my life. I work mostly from home, and the telemarketing calls I used to get were a tremendous annoyance and aggravation to me. I would get, on average, 3-4 calls per day. I actually stopped answering my phone in the daytime because I would assume that it was a telemarketer. For three years I would politely tell them that I'm not interested and request that they please take my name off their call list. However, the frequency of the calls never diminished. Since Indiana's law was enacted, I get only about 1 call per month, and I no longer hesitate to answer my own phone when it rings!

Thus, while I applaud your effort to institute such a law on the national level, I also emphatically request that you allow states to maintain even stricter standards than the national law. Anything that weakens the privacy protections that we currently have in place here in my state will diminish not only my own personal sense of peace in my home, but also my productivity as a person who works at home. The telephone is more than a communication device: it is a conduit directly into a person's home. Just as individuals have the right to ask unwanted salespeople to stay off their property, I also believe that we have the right to request that no salespeople call us at home if we do not wish to receive such calls. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jonathan O'Brien
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